

REMARKS / ARGUMENTS

Claims 17, 19-21, 23-26, 30-33, 53-56, 58, 65-66, 96-120 are pending in the present application. Of these claims, 17, 31, 53, 66, 96 and 110 are independent. Claims 1-16, 18, 27-29, 34-52, 59-64 and 67-95 were canceled. Claims 22 and 57 were withdrawn.

Claims 17, 19-21, 23-26, 29, 30, 32 and 33 were rejected as being indefinite. Claim 17 has been amended to provide proper antecedent basis for the recited “desired performance range.”

Claims 53-56, 58, 61, 62 and 65 were rejected as being anticipated by Schnelle (U.S. Patent No.6,558,283). Claims 53-56, 58, 61, 62 and 65 were rejected as being unpatentable by Holmes (U.S. Patent No. 6,540,631). Claims 17, 19-21, 23-26, 30, 32 and 33 were rejected as being unpatentable over Holmes in view of Severinsky (U.S. Patent No. 5,343,970).

Claims 31 and 96-120 are allowed.

Applicant appreciates the indication that claims 29, 64 and 66 would be allowable if rewritten into independent form. Claim 17 has been amended to include the limitations of dependent claim 29, claim 53 has been amended to include the limitations of dependent claim 64 and claim 66 has been amended into independent form thereby placing all claims in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits that all claims are in condition for allowance and an action to that end is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 415-412-3322.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date



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